

House File 2270 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 2270
BY ABDUL-SAMAD

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to a foreign language requirement at the
2 elementary school level for school districts and including
3 an effective date provision.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256.11, subsection 3, Code Supplement
2 2009, is amended to read as follows:

3 3. The following areas shall be taught in grades one through
4 six: English-language arts, social studies, mathematics,
5 science, health, age-appropriate and research-based human
6 growth and development, physical education, traffic safety,
7 music, and visual art. The health curriculum shall include
8 the characteristics of communicable diseases including
9 acquired immune deficiency syndrome. At least one foreign
10 language shall be taught in grades one through six in school
11 districts. The state board as part of accreditation standards
12 shall adopt curriculum definitions for implementing the
13 elementary program.

14 Sec. 2. FOREIGN LANGUAGE FOR ELEMENTARY STUDENTS — SCHOOL
15 DISTRICT PLAN. The board of directors of each school district
16 shall develop and implement a plan to teach at least one
17 foreign language in grades one through six by the school year
18 beginning July 1, 2012.

19 Sec. 3. STATE MANDATE FUNDING SPECIFIED. In accordance
20 with section 25B.2, subsection 3, the state cost of requiring
21 compliance with any state mandate included in this Act shall
22 be paid by a school district from state school foundation aid
23 received by the school district under section 257.16. This
24 specification of the payment of the state cost shall be deemed
25 to meet all of the state funding-related requirements of
26 section 25B.2, subsection 3, and no additional state funding
27 shall be necessary for the full implementation of this Act
28 by and enforcement of this Act against all affected school
29 districts.

30 Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. The section of this Act amending
31 section 256.11, subsection 3, takes effect July 1, 2012.

32 EXPLANATION

33 This bill requires school districts to develop and implement
34 a plan to teach at least one foreign language in grades one
35 through six by the school year beginning July 1, 2012. The

1 provision that amends the educational standards to require
2 school districts to teach at least one foreign language in
3 grades one through six takes effect July 1, 2012.

4 The bill may include a state mandate as defined in Code
5 section 25B.3. The bill requires that the state cost of
6 any state mandate included in the bill be paid by a school
7 district from state school foundation aid received by the
8 school district under Code section 257.16. The specification
9 is deemed to constitute state compliance with any state mandate
10 funding-related requirements of Code section 25B.2. The
11 inclusion of this specification is intended to reinstate the
12 requirement of political subdivisions to comply with any state
13 mandates included in the bill.